

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)	8:08CR277
)	
Plaintiff,)	
)	
v.)	MEMORANDUM AND ORDER
)	
LARRY TERRANCE DOTSON,)	
)	
Defendant.)	

This matter is before the court for initial review of the defendant's Motion under 28 U.S.C. § 2255 to Vacate, Set Aside, or Correct Sentence by a Person in Federal Custody, Filing No. 45. Rule 4(b) of the *Rules Governing Section 2255 Proceedings for the United States District Courts* requires initial review of the defendant's § 2255 motion. Rule 4(b) provides:

Initial Consideration by the Judge. The judge who receives the motion must promptly examine it. If it plainly appears from the motion, any attached exhibits, and the record of prior proceedings that the moving party is not entitled to relief, the judge must dismiss the motion and direct the clerk to notify the moving party. If the motion is not dismissed, the judge must order the United States attorney to file an answer, motion, or other response within a fixed time, or to take other action the judge may order.

The record indicates that defendant pled guilty to Count II of the indictment for possessing a firearm and ammunition having previously been convicted of a felony in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 922(g)(1). See Filing Nos. 1 and 23. The court sentenced the defendant to the custody of the Bureau of Prisons for 92 months followed by 3 years supervised release. See Filing No. 37 and 38, Judgment in Criminal Case.

In his § 2255 motion, the defendant alleges a claim of ineffective assistance of counsel. To assert his claim, the defendant argues that he received ineffective assistance of counsel because his attorney's performance fell below the objective standard of reasonableness the Supreme Court defined in *Strickland*. See [*Strickland v. Washington*, 466 U.S. 668, 690-691 \(1984\)](#). See Filing No. 45.

It does not plainly appear from the motion and the record of prior proceedings that the

defendant is not entitled to relief. Therefore, the court will order the United States to respond by filing an answer to the defendant's claims.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. That upon initial review, the court finds that summary dismissal of the defendant's § 2255 motion is not required.
2. That within 30 days of the date of this order, the United States shall file an answer to the defendant's § 2255 motion, supported by a brief.
3. That the defendant shall have 30 days from the filing of the government's answer and brief to file a reply brief.

DATED this 29th day of January, 2010.

BY THE COURT:

s/ Joseph F. Bataillon
Chief District Judge